



Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services

**MAYOR'S THRIVE BY FIVE COORDINATING COUNCIL**

October 28, 2020

Webex

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

**Coordinating Council Members**

**DC Agency Representatives**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Affiliation/Designation</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Designee</b>	<b>Attendance</b>
Dr. Faith Gibson Hubbard	Thrive by Five Coordinating Council	present		
Ellen Riordan	District of Columbia Public Library	present		
Rayna Smith	Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services	not present	Sakina Thompson	present
Carlie Fisherow	Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education	not present		
Dr. Erica McClaskey	DC Health	present		
Erin Kupferberg	Public Charter School Board	not present		
Dr. Cheryl Ohlson	DC Public Schools	present		
Brenda Donald	Child and Family Services Agency	not present		
Dr. Barbara Bazron	Department of Behavioral Health	not present	Barbara Paulson	present
Theresa Early	Department of Human Services	present		
Vanessa Weatherington	Department of Employment Services	not present	Atrelle Ruiz	present
Superintendent Hanseul Kang	Office of the State Superintendent of Education	not present		



Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services

### Public Members

Name	Affiliation/Designation	Attendance
Yael Meirovich	Community Member Ward 1	present
Michelle Parrish	Community Member Ward 5	present
Ramin Taheri	Community Member Ward 6	not present
LaJoy Johnson-Law	Community Member Ward 8	not present
Sara Mead	State Early Childhood Development Coordinating Council	not present
Brenda Rhodes Miller	DC Campaign to Prevent Teen Pregnancy	not present
Kimberly Perry	DC Action for Children	not present
Ruqiyyah Anbar-Shaheen	Home Visiting Council	not present
Dominique Spencer	Jubilee Jumpstart	present
Dr. Marla Dean	Bright Beginnings	present
Dr. Lenore Jarvis	DC Chapter of American Academy of Pediatrics	present
Dr. Dea Sloan	DC Academy of Family Physicians	present
(unfilled)	American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology	
(unfilled)	Community Member Ward 2	
(unfilled)	Community Member Ward 3	
(unfilled)	Community Member Ward 4	
(unfilled)	Community Member Ward 7	

**Other Attendees:** Colleen Sonosky (DHCF), Aubrey Villalobos, Michelle Price (OSSE), Noni Robinson, Tiffany Wilson (Thrive by Five DC)



Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services

## Agenda

1. **Call to Order** **Council Chair**
  - Chair Dr. Faith Gibson Hubbard (Chair) called the meeting to order at 3:05 pm.
  - Chair asked for folks to introduce themselves to the group by sharing their name and affiliation in the chat.
  - Chair shared the agenda for the meeting.
  
2. **Reflections from September Meeting** **Council Chair**
  - Chair provided a summary of September 29<sup>th</sup> meeting, with no additional points of discussion needing to be raised.
  
3. **Presentation: Lactation Commission** **Council Members**
  - Aubrey Villalobos of the DC Lactation Commission provided an overview of the commission's work, highlighting their annual report and 2020 recommendations. The commission makes recommendations to Mayor Bowser and the Department of Health regarding ways to improve the District's breastfeeding rates.
  - Villalobos also offered opportunities for collaboration and coordination, including featuring breastfeeding resources on the [dcmaternalhealth.com](http://dcmaternalhealth.com) site, coordinating recommendations for efficient and impact, and providing regular updates on current breastfeeding promotion efforts available throughout the District.
  
4. **Annual Report Overview** **Council Chair**
  - Chair shared an overview of Thrive by Five's annual report structure, including the history of the office, evidence of work, and a look ahead to work in the coming year.
  - The report will also detail the Coordinating Council's recommendations.
  
5. **Discussion: Final Draft of Recommendations** **Council Members**
  - Chair presented the final draft of recommendations according to subcommittees. Final draft of recommendations presented include:
    - Systems Navigation
      - 1. *Amplify new and existing District programs and initiatives for families and their young children to increase awareness and impact.*



Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services

- Raise awareness and knowledge of centralized resource supports, like DC Health's Help Me Grow and DC Child & Family Services Agency's Family Success Centers.
- Ensure that existing District programming is included on Thrive by Five DC's website.
- Through our outreach efforts, work to create awareness of and access to these programs. This work will require working alongside government agencies and non-governmental entities.
- Continue to regularly engage the Thrive by Five working group to stay informed about work being done or expanded in the early care sector.

*2. Create a systems-level map of resources and supports for families and providers.*

- Raise awareness and knowledge of centralized resource supports, like DC Health's Help Me Grow and DC Child & Family Services Agency's Family Success Centers.
- Use existing needs assessments conducted within government agencies and non-government organizations to understand what work has been done based on Thrive by Five's focus areas (health, education, development, family support, and community). Examples of this include CFSA's Families First needs assessment and OSSE's PDG needs assessment.
- Determine target populations and areas of need based on information and data highlighted in District-wide needs assessments.
- Work with District agencies represented on the Thrive by Five Coordinating Council to include the most relevant programs for families and providers.

*3. Work with government and non-government organizations to increase language access and programming for families who cannot or have a limited capacity to speak, read, and/or write in English.*

- Partner with other community affairs offices to expand programs and content available in languages detailed in the District's Language Access Act, similar to Thrive by Five's work with the Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs.

- **Maternal Health**

*1. Push for an expansion of centering programs to improve health care for pregnant persons and their babies.*



Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services

2. *Work with the Department of Health Care Finance, providers, and managed care organizations (MCOs) to increase awareness of telehealth supports for pregnant and parenting persons.*
  3. *Utilize the Mayor's Maternal & Infant Health Initiative to highlight programming, identify issues and opportunities, and garner support for additional funding in the perinatal health space.*
  4. *Work with birthing hospitals throughout the District to include information about developmental milestones and early intervention in discharge packets for parents (like information about birth certificates and DCPL's Books from Birth program).*
  5. *Identify the range of strategies available to support the unique needs of families at various times, with examples including transportation for prenatal visits, doula care, and homevisiting.*
  6. *Work with the Department of Behavioral Health and other systems-level providers to increase awareness and identification of maternal mental health problems during the perinatal period (such as Perinatal Mood and Anxiety Disorders and Postpartum Depression).*
- **Early Learning & Development**
    - 1 *Partner with direct service agencies to increase awareness of services and number of referrals of children suspected of having a delay or disability.*
    2. *Advocate for increased access to behavioral and mental health services for young children, their parents, and caregivers.*
    3. *Work with childcare centers, homes, and associations to share information about Thrive by Five and other agencies supporting maternal health and early learning to families they serve.*
  - Partner with providers to bring awareness to programs currently available for families.
    4. *Continue to work in partnership with OSSE around efforts to support childcare quality, access, and affordability.*



Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services

- Increase community and family awareness of and involvement with the State Early Childhood Development Coordinating Council (SECDCC).
  - Explore ways to increase dialogue and feedback loops with childcare stakeholders, which could include additional advisory roles for families and providers.
  - Continue to convene advisory groups of childcare providers to offer thought partnership and guidance in the space of childcare and early learning, similar to the Child Care Recovery Workgroup convened specifically to address COVID-19.
  - Explore ways to increase childcare providers' knowledge of existing supports and to connect childcare providers to those supports and to each other.
- Chair opened discussion of draft recommendations. Two additional recommendation suggestions included language to specifically support folks with disabilities and literacy challenges and strategies for information and data sharing that can reduce confusion and paperwork burden for families.
  - Members also offered various comments regarding word choice and syntax. Chair asked that members provide any final comments by 6pm on October 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### 6. Other Member Updates

#### Council Members

- Dr. Cheryl Ohlson, DC Public Schools, shared information about the ready for pre-k program that DCPS plans to launch on November 18<sup>th</sup>. The information will be beneficial for teachers and families, with content specifically tailored to virtual instruction supports.
- Colleen Sonosky, Department of Health Care Finance, reminded members of the shifts in managed care organizations for Medicaid beneficiaries. DCHF is working to resolve any issues that families may regarding consistency of services.

#### 7. Additional Comments & Next Steps

#### Council Members

- Chair shared two action items for members in preparation for December's meeting. Agency members were asked to submit programs, initiatives, and offices most relevant to Thrive by Five's work for us to review during our December meeting. Chair also asked that all members come ready to discuss stakeholders and realistic timelines for operationalizing recommendations.
- Chair reminded members that meeting materials are available via OneDrive.
- Chair presented 2021 full Coordinating Council meeting dates with a tentative location: January 20, March 24, May 26, July 21, September 29, November 10, and December 15. 9786



Office of the Deputy Mayor for Health and Human Services

## 8. Adjournment

Council Chair

- Meeting adjourned at 4:32 pm.

Any comments regarding these meeting minutes may be sent to Tiffany Wilson at [tiffany.wilson@dc.gov](mailto:tiffany.wilson@dc.gov).

DRAFT